

WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,
and workers in the District of Columbia*

Friday, May 13, 2005

SUSPECT ARRESTED IN BRUTAL ATTACK AND ROBBERY OF 83-YEAR-OLD WOMAN IN FOGGY BOTTOM

It was a crime that shocked and outraged not only her neighbors in the Foggy Bottom community, but residents throughout the city and even across the country. On Tuesday, May 3, an 83-year-old vendor—affectionately known as “Grandma” to her neighbors and customers—was attacked while in the loading dock area of a building in the 700 block of 24th Street, NW. The victim was savagely beaten and kicked by a suspect and then robbed of her fanny pack—with the entire incident captured on the building’s security camera. Thanks to the dogged work of detectives and officers from the Second and Fifth Districts, as well as a steady stream of tips from the community, a suspect in the case was apprehended less than a week after the attack. James Aloysious Dorsey, age 46 and with no fixed address, was arrested in 5D on May 7 for allegedly assaulting a female acquaintance on the same day as the attack on “Grandma.” The next day, 2D detectives obtained an arrest warrant and formally charged Dorsey in connection with the assault and robbery of the 83-year-old woman. As of May 13, Dorsey was being held in jail pending additional court hearings. Chief Ramsey commended all those members of the MPDC who worked long and hard hours to apprehend the alleged suspect in this case, and he thanked the community for its support.

① Read the full news release at:
[http://app.mpdcc.gov/newsroom/
newsroom.asp?sid=3183](http://app.mpdcc.gov/newsroom/newsroom.asp?sid=3183)

① While some assaults and robberies cannot be prevented, there are some things that people can do to help reduce their risk of being victimized. Learn more at:
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,
547781,mpdcNav_GID,1551.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,547781,mpdcNav_GID,1551.asp)

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH FOR MAY ARE HONORED

Back in January, Officer Christopher Johnson was working the day tour in PSA 504 when he noticed a large number of people with apparent drug dependencies hanging out in the 1200 block of Owen Place, NE. The officer set up an observation post and noted a lot of foot traffic at a rooming house in that block. For the next several days, the officer began making contact with people on the block and eventually established an informant. The informant advised Officer Johnson that a man was selling crack cocaine from his room at that location, adding that the suspect was smart and suspicious, and sold only to people he knew. A short time later, Officer Johnson observed a subject matching the suspect’s description walking in the block. He conducted a stop; the individual gave a name and date of birth that identified him as someone with no record. Suspicious that the man was lying about his identify, Officer Johnson re-contacted the informant, who was eventually able to provide the man’s real name and age. With this information, Officer Johnson was able to properly identify the man, and discovered that he had outstanding warrants against him. On January 13, Officer Johnson, along with other 5D officers, apprehended the suspect without incident. For so alertly detecting and investigating suspicious activity on his PSA, Officer Johnson was recognized during this month’s CHAMPS awards luncheon. He was one of 16 MPDC members, from seven units, honored as “Officers of the Month” for May.

① Read about all of these outstanding members at:
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,
556951,mpdcNav_GID,1544.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,556951,mpdcNav_GID,1544.asp)

① CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) is a monthly awards program hosted by the Hotel Association of Washington, DC. The May awards luncheon was hosted by the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Northwest.

① Members of the public are invited to submit commendations for outstanding MPDC officers anytime, using the online form:
[http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1241,q,
548642,mpdcNav_GID,1523,mpdcNav,_.asp](http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1241,q,548642,mpdcNav_GID,1523,mpdcNav,_.asp)

MPDC MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR WORK IN CLOSING SERIAL ARSON CASE

Thirteen MPDC members who helped to investigate 42 fires in DC, Maryland and Virginia—including a fatal fire in Northeast that killed an 86-year-old woman—have been recognized for their work in helping to close the case. Recently honored with the Department's Meritorious Service Medals were four detectives and one intelligence analyst who were assigned to the Serial Arsonist Task Force, as well as a supervising lieutenant and six Focused Mission Team officers and one sergeant detailed to the investigation to conduct tactical operations during the midnight tour of duty. Members of the midnight unit were tasked with an assortment of assignments including visiting gas stations and interviewing attendants. The members interviewed numerous confidential informants and conducted contacts on the street. Investigators followed up on 1,300 leads that were developed from the arson tip-line and the MPDC's Command Center. These members also conducted surveillance on hard targets for more than six months, an activity that was critical to the investigation. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the members assigned to the investigation, a suspect—Thomas Sweatt, of Southeast—was developed and arrested. He is now reportedly cooperating with investigators. The MPDC members were recognized during a recent Recruit Graduation ceremony with the Meritorious Service Medals.

- ① Congratulations to the following MPDC members who were honored for their work on the serial arson case: Lieutenant Eugene A. Bentley; Sergeant Charles Baumgart; Detectives Todd Gray, Frank Molino, Drew Smith and Sandra Urps; Officers Timothy Francis, James Jaffe, Matthew McFadden, Robert Overmyer, Ray Shield and Howard Wade; and Analyst Emmanuel Ross.

REMEMBER A FALLEN MPDC HERO DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

As police officers and other supporters from across the US come to DC for National Police Week, the MPDC encourages the DC community to remember its own fallen heroes killed in the line of duty. To honor officers from the Washington, DC region who have died in the line of duty, the Fraternal Order of Police, DC Lodge #1 Auxiliary holds its 26th Annual Memorial Service on May 16th, at the memorial fountain outside MPDC Headquarters. This year's ceremony recognizes three area police officers who died in the line of duty during 2004: Sergeants John Ashley and Clifton Rife II of the MPDC, and Trooper First Class Anthony Jones of the Maryland State Police. The MPDC also maintains an on-line memorial to the 110 Metropolitan Police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the community. The Department invites members of the MPDC, as well as members of the DC community, to submit personal remembrances in honor of the Department's fallen heroes.

- ① To read about the heroics of the MPDC officers killed in the line of duty, and to submit a remembrance, please visit:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1233,q,539213,mpdcNav,131457|.asp>

- ① For a complete list of Police Week events, visit:

<http://www.nleomf.com>

NEWS & NOTES

Reward Increased in Donte Manning Homicide. The MPDC has announced an increase in the reward in the recent homicide of 9-year-old Donte Manning on 13th Street, NW. The Department is now offering up to \$75,000 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible this crime, and a private reward of up to \$5,000 is also being offered. As a result, the total reward in this case is now up to \$80,000. Read the news release at <http://app.mpdc.dc.gov/newsroom/newsroom.asp?sid=3170>.

Smooth Operator Program Begins. Beginning Monday, the MPDC and law enforcement agencies across the region will be stepping up their efforts to combat aggressive driving during the first, week-long wave of the Smooth Operator 2005 campaign. From May 16-22, officers will be paying special attention to violations such as running red lights and stop signs, tailgating, unsafe lane changes, failing to yield the right of way, improper passing and speeding. Learn more at http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1240,q,547928,mpdcNav_GID,1552,mpdcNav,|.asp

“Chatting with the Chief” on Tuesday. Chief Ramsey discusses public safety issues and takes phones calls from 6:40-7 pm on Tuesday, May 17, during his monthly interview segment on WHUR-96.3 FM radio.

DATA BOX

Homicides as of 5/13/05

- ◆ 2005: 60
- ◆ 2004: 73
- ◆ % Change: -17.8%
- ◆ Closure Rate: 56.7% (34 closures)

Adult Arrests week end. 5/7/05

- ◆ Total: 937
- ◆ Drugs: 189
- ◆ Weapons: 29
- ◆ Motor Vehicle Theft: 8
- ◆ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 43

Juvenile Activity week end. 5/7/05

- ◆ Arrests: 48
- ◆ Curfew Violations: 20
- ◆ Truants: 135

Firearm Recoveries as of 5/11/05

- ◆ May: 77
- ◆ April: 171
- ◆ 2005 Total: 950

Traffic Fatalities as of 5/13/05

- ◆ 2005: 16
- ◆ 2004: 23
- ◆ % Change: -30.4%

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

mpdc.dc.gov